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chapter 15 {HQ scans yay!}
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Raws: kai+ (FTH)
Translator: Tantou (FTH)
Editor: tactics
Typesetter: Savader
QC AnonMan (FTH)
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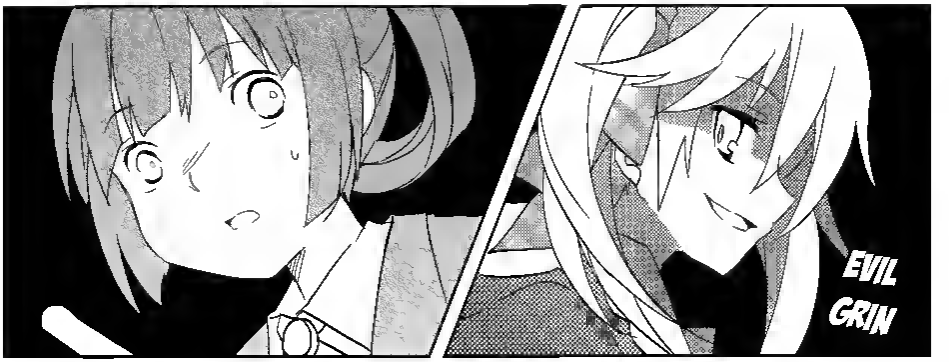
# 第15話

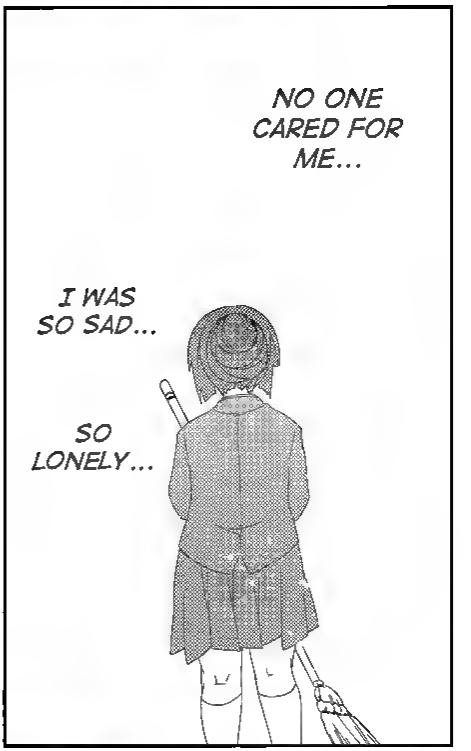
I hope you know that even if you don't manage to beat Usa-chan after all this...
You'll still be a great girl in my eyes.

Well... I know I probably shouldn't be telling you this with the way you are now.....
...sa-chan.
I can't... It's my turn to clean the classroom.
Ahh, just make Kameko do it for you.
Usa-chan!
Let's go home!

But...
There's this new arcade you gotta' see!
Yeah, and we need your awesome crane machine skills!
Hey, Kameko! You'll clean up for, her won't ya?
It's only during times like these where you're of any use anyway~
Uh...
Y.. Yeah...
I'll...
I'll do it...
There ya go! Kameko says she's totally cool with it!
She did say she would!
Sorry about this...
And thanks.
It's okay...


EVIL GRIN

I WAS...
I WAS SUCH A DUMMY, AND I HAD ABSOLUTELY NOTHING GOOD GOING FOR ME...

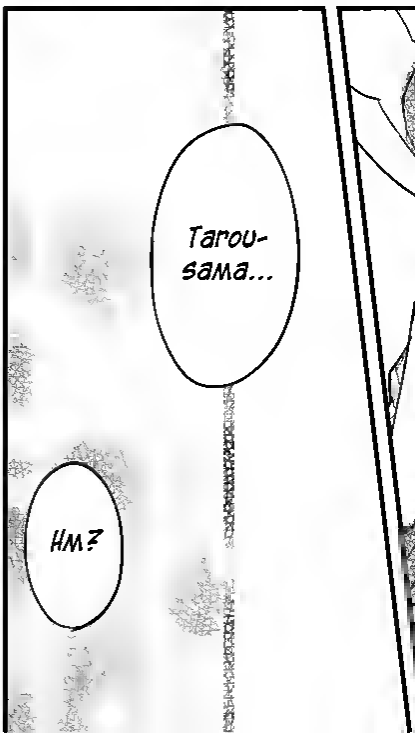

NO ONE CARED FOR ME...
I WAS SO SAD...
SO LONELY...

Otohime-chan!

You're still pretty cute as you are now, but if you lost some weight, you'd be insanely cute!
IT WAS LIKE I WAS BORN AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME...
BUT ONE DAY...SOMEONE CALLED ME BY MY REAL NAME, INSTEAD OF KAMEKO.

HE TOLD ME I COULD BE PRETTY.
THAT IS WHY I HAD TO BECOME SO PRETTY THAT TAROU-SAMA WOULD LOOK AT ME.
I WON'T LET ANYONE TELL ME I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR TAROU-SAMA!
SO...
I CANNOT LOSE TO LISAMI-SAN!
THAT'S WHY...

Oh, are you awake, Princess?
Tarou-sama...


Tarou-sama...
Hm?

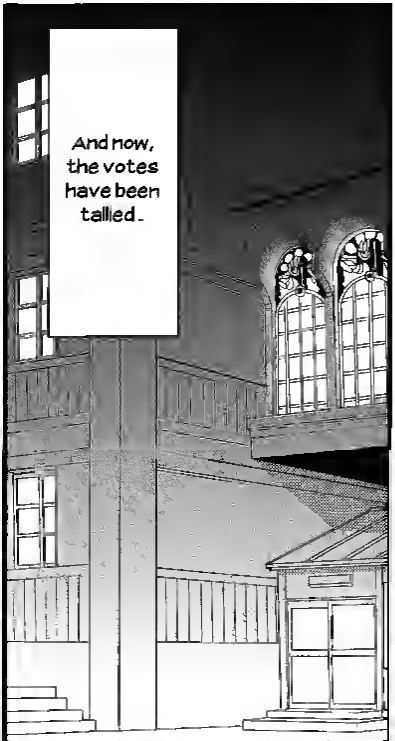
I am going to win!
And I will prove to you that I am a good enough girl for you!
... Just promise me you won't try too hard, okay?
I promise!

MISS OTOGI CONTEST
The Miss Otogi Contest is finally coming to an end!
And now, the moment you've all been waiting for: APPEAL TIME!!
Looks like we'll finally see who is better than who.
Indeed.
おお～
Ooooh～

Hmph! There is no way I'm gonna lose to the likes of you!
People can change... And I have. I am no longer the same girl from our past.
WE'VE DONE ALL WE CAN...!!
IT'S ALL UP TO FATE NOW...!!

And thus, the voting commenced for Miss Otogi.
Each vote was anonymous.
Every boy in school filled their ballots and dropped them off in the box.

FIDGET
FIDGET
.....


And now, the votes have been tallied.

Sorry for the wait!
The results are IN!
And just how did you get your hands on them?
Just call it a...trade secret?
Anyway, here it is: the results for each of the school's candidates!

Every girl that got a vote is on this list.
But, of course, there are a lot more girls that didn't get *any* votes, as apposed to girls that *did*, so...
Um... Would you look *for* me, please...? I'm afraid I'm a bit too nervous to do so myself...
Hmm... This is really well organized...
Oh.
Yeah, sure...

Wow, and Alice-senpai isn't very far behind...
She got 12th
Hmm
Is that so...?
Didn't even know I had fans
Probably because of the Maid Appreciation Club.
Oh my
Really?
Otsuu-senpai is on here...
10th place
Let's see here... Otohime... Otohime.....
I still haven't seen Otohime-san's name...
Ooh, you're on here too, Ringo!
21st place
Well, well~ Someone's getting rather upset~
SILENCE!! I SAID I DON'T CARE!!
Because I've noticed you putting in a little more effort than usual these past few days
You sure about that?
As if I care.
Hmm... You probably got more fans after you went to that photo shoot thing.

Found it!
Ryuuguu Otohime-san...1 vote.
Only one vote...?
Oh, no...
.....
Does that mean...
Oh, no, no. It's all gone according to my plan!

Have you found Usami-san's name yet?
Leeet's see..... Usami... Usami....
I can't find it.
Remember how it actually WASN'T our goal to get you to the top of the list?
All we had to do was help you beat Usami-kun, right?
This whole time, the plan was to utterly destroy both Ryuuguu-kun's and Usami-kun's public image, so no one would vote for them.
Does that mean Otohime-san won with only a single vote?
Exactly so.

Were you really doing all that this whole time?
There's still more to the story...
In order to ensure that, we had to get both parties to actively try and destroy one another, all the while destroying themselves in the process.
And just for a bit of insurance, we redirected any votes they might have gotten to other contestants by giving out fake pictures and spreading wild rumors.
But what would you have done if neither girl had gotten any votes? It would have just ended in a tie, right?
But as fate would have it...
Indeed, it would have.
There was one guy who still wanted to vote for Ryuuguu-kun.
Ryuuguu Otohime
(only one vote per person)

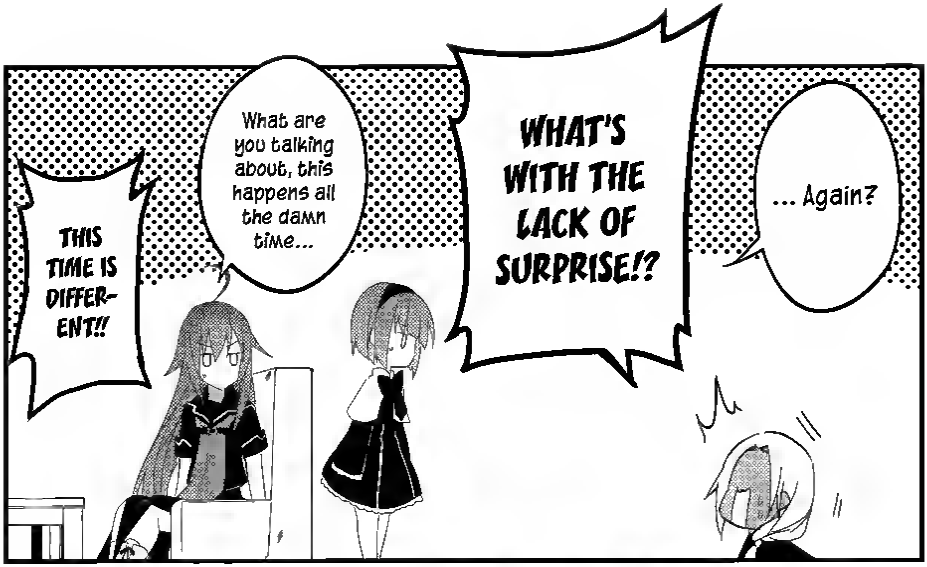
Do you know who voted for you, Ryuuguu-kun?
It just so happens that we had one more request to fulfill.
And that was to make you, Ryuuguu-kun, forget the ugly past and move on.
And I believe you already know who'd make a request like that...
Yes...
Tarou-sama...?

Ryuuguu-kun,
the only vote that ever really mattered to you, was Urashima-kun's, right?
Well, you were so focused on the past, you completely forgot about what was truly important to you.
That is why I had to resort to such a non-linear plan of attack.
I...
I voted for you...
CLAP CLAP
'Grats!
Congratulations!
And without further ado; case closed.
You are officially a better girl than Usami-san.

I once told you back in elementary school, did I not?
.....
Tarou-sama...
You can be pretty if you apply yourself.
And you did apply yourself. You worked hard, and you trans-formed.
So please stop living in the past.
And another thing...
I do believe you're very cute indeed.

Isn't that all you ever wanted?
Ta...
GAHAA!
TAROU-SAMA!!
NOT AGAIN!
I'm... I'm so happy, I can't stop crying!
Wai-
No-
ROCK-ROCK
STOP-
Maybe the rest of us... should take...a nice long walk... outside...?

A pure, unadulterated vote from a fan of yours~
Oh, and here you are~
What's this?
Just a small gift~
Of course, I am not at liberty to give you the name of the person who voted for you.
TS/N Below SFX - "Blush"
Wha~
Oh, how wonderful it must be to feel so loved~
A few days later -
SOMEBODY HELP MEEE!!!


... Again?
WHAT'S WITH THE LACK OF SURPRISE!?
What are you talking about, this happens all the damn time...
THIS TIME IS DIFFER-ENT!!

EVER SINCE THE CONTEST, IT'S AS IF SHE'S RECEIVED A POWER-UP OR SOMETHING!
Well, that's understand-able, I guess...
I KNOW, RIGHT?! SO WHY WON'T YOU HELP ME!?
Haah... Fine...

Whoa, wait... You for real?
I am.
It'll be easier to keep an eye on him, and we could use him.
I accept!

Why don't you just join our organi-zation?

This place is so comfy and is always filled with good-looking women anyway!!
OTOGI ACADEMY MUTUAL STUDENT AID
Scratch each others' back and grow closer as a team...
And save damsels in distress!
Like a knight in shining armor!
And live happily ever after!
Hell yeah!
My, my that sounds so romantic!
HWUAHAHA...!! HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE I WAS, OTOHIME...!?
With the power of true love~!
Whoa, wait!
NOOO! HELP!!
TH-THIS ISN'T OVER!!
R-RAAAAAPE!!!